

**Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission**

**(1) Federal Advisory Committee Name**

Technology Advisory Committee (“TAC”).

**(2) Authority**

The TAC is a discretionary advisory committee and is established by the authority of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission" or "CFTC") in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App II.

**(3) Mission/Function**

The TAC’s mission and function shall be to conduct public meetings, submit reports and recommendations to the Commission, and otherwise assist the Commission in identifying and understanding the impact and implication of technological innovation in the financial services and commodity markets. The TAC will provide advice on the application and utilization of new technologies in financial services and commodity markets, as well as by market professionals and market users. The TAC will provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate level of investment in technology at the Commission to meet its surveillance and enforcement responsibilities, and advise the Commission on the need for strategies to implement rules and regulations to support the Commission’s mission of ensuring the integrity of the markets.

**(4) Points of View**

The Commission seeks to identify individuals from a wide array of backgrounds, including those who represent industry, regulatory bodies, academia, and exchanges. The Commission will seek nominees to the TAC from various backgrounds, including but not limited to, those from technology firms, public interest groups, futures commission merchants, market makers, regulatory organizations, end users, and data repositories. The Commission seeks a wide array of individuals to share their experiences with technological innovation in the industry and ways that the Commission can utilize these new technologies in carrying out its mission. The TAC shall consist of no more than 40 total members.

Though the precise number of representative members in any category may vary over time, the Commission expects the TAC to have approximately 25-30 members

representing the following viewpoint categories: (i) Industry (15-18 ); (ii) Exchanges (4-5); (iii) Regulatory Organizations (1-2); and (iv) Academia (1-2).

The Commission anticipates that TAC members will primarily be appointed as representatives rather than special government employees (“SGEs”). The particular members will be chosen to individually and collectively represent and act as a spokesperson for the organizations and entities that constitute and actively participate in the financial services and commodity markets that the Commission oversees such as exchanges, data repositories, futures commission merchants, and end users, and to serve as a vehicle for communication between the Commission and these entities on technology issues affecting these markets. Depending on the issues faced, the Commission may, from time to time, appoint experts to serve as SGEs, or officials of other federal agencies to the TAC. The Commission will not appoint any federally-registered lobbyists to serve as SGEs on the TAC.

#### **(5) Other Balance Factors**

To the extent practicable, the CFTC will strive to select TAC members reflecting a wide ethnic, racial, gender, and age representation.

#### **(6) Candidate Identification Process**

The Commission identifies individuals to be represented on the TAC based on Commissioners' and CFTC staff professional knowledge of the technologies in use, consultation with knowledgeable persons outside the CFTC, and requests to be represented received from organizations. The TAC’s Sponsor, who may be the Chairman of the Commission, a Commissioner, or designee of the Commission, plays a primary, but not exclusive, role in this process; and makes recommendations regarding membership to the Commission. The Commission, by vote, appoints individuals to serve on the TAC.

If there is any membership vacancy, the Commission will evaluate whether a replacement is needed to maintain a fairly balanced membership or otherwise to facilitate the work of the TAC. If the Commission so determines, it will seek to make a replacement appointment, using the same procedures and with the same considerations as for other appointments.

TAC members will be appointed to two-, three-, or four-year terms as determined by the Commission. Pursuant to the charter, members may be removed at any time by a vote of the Commission.

**(7) Subcommittee Balance**

The Commission seeks to ensure that the membership of subcommittees is balanced relative to the particular issue addressed by the subcommittee in question.

**(8) Other**

Not applicable.

**(9) Date Prepared**

October 5, 2016